

[Document E.]

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

February 4th, 1842.

Read and ordered to be printed.

R E P O R T

FROM

T H E J O I N T C O M M I T T E E

ON THE

S T A T E L I B R A R Y .

ANNAPOLIS:

WM. JOHNSTON, PRINTER.

.....
1842.

R E P O R T .

The Joint Committee on the State Library ask leave to make the following report:

That they have examined the annual account of the Librarian and have found the same to be strictly correct.

It affords your committee great pleasure in being enabled to state, that under the judicious and careful management of the Librarian, its contents have been during the past year greatly enriched and augmented. The report of the Librarian accompanying this (and which your committee beg leave to adopt as part of their report) is so full of information on this head as to leave them but little to add.

They cannot, however, close without calling the attention of the Legislature to the very important suggestions made in a letter from M. Alexandre Vattemare to his late Excellency Governor Grason, and which at his request was placed by the Librarian before your committee. That letter suggests, that the joint committee on the Library should adopt the same "*Resolves*" that were passed by the 26th Congress of the United States, 1st session, No. 586, which provides for an exchange of the publications of that body with foreign countries.

The name of Alexandre Vattemare must ever be precious alike to science and civilization. After having visited every part of Europe, and opened a communication with the extremity of India, with Persia, Turkey and Greece, and established a mutual exchange of the works of nature, science and art—after having received the most flattering commendations from every quarter of the Globe, from Emperors, Kings, Cardinals, Archbishops, Bishops and the Clergy of all denominations, and from absolute and representative governments,—all manifesting their solicitude for his success—at the suggestions of Lafayette, Governor Cass and other distinguished Americans, he visited the United States to offer to us the advantages of this, to use the words of the celebrated Lamartine, "*great locomotive of universal civilization.*"

Your committee cannot for a moment believe, that the Legislature of Maryland will refuse to avail herself of the great advan-

tage which a system of foreign exchange holds out to her. She was the first to introduce and adopt a system of exchange with her sister States; the great success of which is to be seen in the accumulating volumes upon the shelves of her Library.

The object designed by M. Vattermare is nothing more than an extension of the same system to foreign countries: On the shelves of your Library are many thousand duplicate volumes of but little use to us, but which, if forwarded and exchanged in Europe, will send back in return a rich freight of intellectual lore.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HORACE WILLSON, Ch'm
on the part of the Senate.

JAS. S. OWENS, Ch'm
on the part of House of Del.

REPORT

OF THE

THE STATE LIBRARIAN,

TO THE

Joint Committee on the Library,

For the year 1841.

STATE LIBRARY,
ANNAPOLIS, January 1st, 1842.

To the Joint Committee on the State Library:

GENTLEMEN—

I have the honor to present the following report, pursuant to the 18th article of the rules and regulations of the Library.

In my last year's report, I stated the balance of that year's appropriation to be \$2 62
To which add the appropriation for 1841, - 500 00

Making the sum of 502 62

And which has been applied as follows:

Paid Samuel Sands, per receipt No. 1,	\$20 62
“ John Holbrooks, per receipt No. 2,	30 00
“ T. & J. W. Johnson, per do No. 3,	185 73
“ 1 year's subscription to “Southern Literary Messenger” for 1841, per rec't No. 4,	5 00
“ 2 years' subscription to “American Rail Road Journal,” to July 1842, per receipt No. 5,	10 00
“ 1 year's subscription to “Law Library” to July 1842, per receipt No. 6,	10 00

Paid N. Hickman, per receipts Nos. 7 & 8,	162 75
“ F. Lucas, Jr., per do. No. 9,	12 00
“ J. Hughes, per do. No. 10,	27 50
“ for 3 copies 3rd vol. Bland’s Chancery Reports, per receipt No. 11,	18 00
	<hr/> 481 60

Leaving unexpended the sum of - - \$21 02

The balance on hand last year, for books sold, was	\$3 74
Since then, I have sold from the Library books to the amount of - - - - -	34 00
And received for a fine imposed for the loss of “Random Recollections of the House of Lords,”	1 50
	<hr/> 39 24

Amounting to - - - - -
Which has been applied as follows:

Paid subscription to “Democratic Herald” per receipt A. - - - - -	\$2 00
Paid J. D. Weems, for books, per receipt B. - - - - -	12 00
Paid Knight & Colburn, per receipt C. - - - - -	4 50
Paid F. Taylor, per receipt D. - - - - -	7 50
Paid for 1 copy Raymond’s Digest, - - - - -	4 00
Paid incidental expenses, - - - - -	8 96
	<hr/> 38 96

Balance on hand, - - - - - 28

In compliance with an order passed by your committee, on the 19th February last, I addressed circulars to the Executive Departments of the several States and Territories, to which the Judicial Reports and Laws of this State have been sent, respectfully asking a reciprocity in the way of exchange of similar works published by each of them. At the same time, under another order, I forwarded to each State and Territory in the Union, a copy of Bozman’s History of Maryland, and the Journal of the Proceedings of the Conventions of Maryland, held in 1774, &c., asking in exchange any work or works illustrating the history of said States and Territories.

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of valuable and interesting works in consequence of this move on the part of Maryland, from the States of Connecticut, Indiana, Missouri, New York, Mississippi, Ohio, Delaware, North Carolina, Virginia and Maine, accompanied by letters from the Governors or Secretaries of these States, expressive of their sense of the liberality of our State, and promising cordially to reciprocate, by a full exchange with Maryland, of such works as may tend to elucidate the history, and the progress of science and literature in each State.

In obedience to Resolution No. 24, passed at the last session of the General Assembly, I have transmitted one set of Dorsey's Laws of Maryland to the several public officers, colleges, academies, &c., therein designated; amounting in all to three hundred and twenty-six sets, or nine hundred and seventy-eight volumes.

Under the same resolution I caused the Library furnace to be repaired, and a new carpet to be laid upon its floor. A statement of the expenditure of which will be laid before your committee.

As authorised by Resolution No. 31, I prepared and had printed five hundred copies of a compilation of the Election Laws now in force in this State; and transmitted the requisite number of copies to the clerks of the several counties in time to be used by the judges at the October election. The remaining copies are in the library and subject to the future disposal of the legislature.

Under the requisition of Resolution No. 37, I forwarded to *The New York Historical Society* one copy of each of the surplus works belonging to the Library, amounting to fifty-three volumes.

In virtue of Resolution No. 28, passed at Dec. sess. 1838, I have noted in each Index volume of Dorsey's Compilation of the Laws of Maryland, under the appropriate title and page, each and every alteration and amendment made in the public and local laws passed at the December session 1840, and at the extra session held in March 1841. To the execution of this duty, as well as that of the compilation of the election laws, the attention of your committee is respectfully invited.

In the month of May last His Excellency Governor Grason placed in my hands a letter addressed to him by Alexandre Vattemare, Esquire, upon the subject of international exchanges, with a request that I would place it, with the accompanying documents, before your committee.

I perform this agreeable duty with the greatest pleasure, feeling assured that the committee will be happy in thus having it in their power to call the attention of our State legislature to the system of exchanges proposed by Mr. Vattemare; and that their generous efforts will be given to bring about a result so desirable and advantageous to their Library.

Mr. Vattemare, in his letter to his Excellency the Governor, requests the examination by your committee of the report made by the Library Committee of the State of Maine, to the Legislature of that State; and also to the action of Congress upon the same subject at the 1st session of the 26th Congress. *Vide* Report No. 586.

It is well known to your committee that Mr. Vattemare was the first to conceive the noble and enlightened plan of diffu-

sing general knowledge by an exchange of duplicate copies of works and specimens of Natural History between the nations and literary institutions throughout the world.—A system, to the establishment of which, between all the governments of Europe, and even to the extremity of India, he had devoted ten years of his life. And then, not being satisfied that his great work of philanthropy was accomplished, he turned his thoughts towards America, “with that sympathy so natural to all Frenchmen, anxious to bear to his American brethren a branch of his system, an emblem of universal peace and love,” to induce them to enter into “the holiest of holy alliances for the preservation of all that is dear to man.”

With this benevolent view he came to America in September 1839, intending to remain for three months, supposing that space of time would suffice to spread over our land, his views and objects for visiting the new world. But when he found how great was the length and breadth of our country, and the greater extent of our wants in the especial matters which induced his coming, he saw himself unable to do that justice to the good work he had undertaken, in a less time than two years. And with that self-sacrificing spirit which characterized, and carried him through Europe, did he visit the most important cities and portions of our country, gaining friends wherever he went, for himself and to his cause.

The object, then, in making his communication to your committee, is to receive from your Library duplicate books, and to give you in exchange works of science and literature from the old world.

You have thousands of duplicate books in your Library, works of no value to us, but which Mr. Vattermare assures us will be gladly received in his country in exchange for others which we cannot obtain with money.

The advantage of such exchanges may be illustrated by evidences now upon your shelves. See the result of exchanges made between Maryland and other States during the last year. Also witness the many shelves of your Library now filled with useful and important volumes, the result of a system of exchanges with the different States of this Union. And which, I am happy to say, Maryland had the honor of introducing and recommending to her sister States forty-five years ago.

In 1797, Maryland had to purchase the Laws of Congress, for the use of her courts of law and equity. *Vide* Resolution No. 1 of that year.

In the same year, and at the same session of her General Assembly, the following Resolution No. 3 was adopted.

Resolved, “That the Governor of this State be, and he is hereby, authorised and requested to send to the Executive of

the different States respectively an edition of Bacon's Laws, Hanson's Laws, and the laws since that period, neatly bound, accompanied by a letter expressing the sense of the legislature as to the propriety and utility of an interchange of laws."

This action of Maryland has been generously responded to by her sister States, and the good resulting from it is seen and known.

In 1831 Maryland presented a complete set of her Judicial Reports to each State and Territory in the Union; and continues annually to forward them as published. To this exchange of Reports most of the States have responded. At the last session she presented her volumes of printed History, &c., to each of the same, the result in part is herewith laid before you.

May it be respectfully suggested, that one or more copies of her "Public Documents," embracing her Treasurer's reports, together with the Journal of her Legislative Proceedings, be annually forwarded to each State, asking them to reciprocate.

I take pleasure in stating that the States of Indiana and Mississippi have presented to your Library—the first, her "Public Documents" for 1839 and 1840, and the latter, her "Journals of Legislative Proceedings" for 1841.

The annual Laws of the several States and of the United States, the Revised Statutes of Vermont, South Carolina and Maine; and the Judicial Reports from thirteen States have been received. I have also to acknowledge the receipt within the last year, of a Royal folio volume, containing the "Ancient Laws and Institutes of England, enacted under the Anglo-Saxon Kings, &c., from the 7th to the 10th Century."—It being a present from the British Government, making the 108th volume, which that liberal and enlightened empire has presented to this institution.

Your Library has been increased and enriched within the past year, from the various sources within named, by the receipt of five hundred and fifty-four volumes, most of which are of value and high interest.

D. RIDGELY,
Librarian.



RESOLUTIONS.

No. 1.

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That fifty copies of the Laws, Public Documents, and Journals of the Senate and House of Delegates, of the number annually printed for distribution among the several counties and Howard district of this state, shall be, and the several printers to the Legislature are hereby authorized and required to deposit the same in the State Library for the purpose of exchange in foreign countries; that the Librarian be and he is hereby authorized and required to have the same bound, and to transmit the above extra copies of the Laws, public documents, Journals of the Senate and House of Delegates, together with such surplus books now remaining in the Library as the joint committee on the Library may direct to the agents of foreign countries in the United States, authorized to receive the same for the above purpose.

No. 2.

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Librarian be and he is hereby authorised and required, annually to transmit to the several States and Territories, and to the Library of Congress, one copy of the public documents, and one copy of the Journals of the Senate and House of Delegates.

No. 3.

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Librarian be and he is hereby authorized and required to transmit one copy of Dorsey's Laws of Maryland to the board of commissioners, or levy court as the case may be, of the several counties and of Howard District in this State.

No. 4.

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Librarian be and he is hereby authorized and required to receive and securely preserve any and every public document, speech, pamphlet or other publication that may be forwarded to the State Library, under the existing regulations or as donations.



